

Asheville City Council
Planning and Economic Development Committee

2:00 p.m., May 13, 2009
Economic Development Office Conference Room

Minutes

Present: Councilwoman Robin Cape, Chair; Vice-Mayor Jan Davis

Staff: Gary Jackson, Sam Powers, Sasha Vrtunski, Shannon Tuch, Judy Daniel, Nikki Reid

The Planning and Economic Development Committee met on May 13, 2009, at 29 Haywood Street. Chair Cape called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from the April 8, 2009, meeting were approved as written.

2. Updates

Downtown Master Plan

Sasha Vrtunski, Project Manager, gave the update, and reported that the presentation at the Council the previous evening had gone well. The Committee suggested that staff prepare a review of what has happened since the 2010 plan was adopted in 1987. Judy Daniel, Planning Director, suggested an annual update to Council on plan implementation, which would show progress towards plan objectives.

RFP

Sam Powers, Economic Development Director, gave the update.

Eagle Market Street: The YMI Cultural Center is doing some outreach within the community to help with community relations.

Haywood Street: The City is preparing a draft purchase and sale agreement, and is following up with McKibbin Hotels representative Wes Townsen.

One Stop Shop

Gary Jackson, City Manager, gave the update.

An update on the One Stop Shop concept was presented to the community at the Development Forum on Friday, May 8, 2009. At this point, the project management is being transitioned due to Greg Grayson, lead staff on the project, leaving for a job in Greensboro. The project involves some 70 people coming in under one roof. A priority is to make sure that there is case manager/project manager, or point person, for every

level 1 project. The City is currently obtaining estimates for building modifications, with a projected completion date in the summer of 2009 project.

Swannanoa River Demolition

Nikki Reid, Real Estate Manager, gave the update.

She reported the demolition of the Swannanoa River buildings is starting this week, and that it will be a green demolition.

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3. New Business

Airport Land Use & Zoning

Judy Daniel, Planning Director, and Shannon Tuch, Assistant Director, gave the report.

Please see attached Staff Report, dated March 16 to the Mayor and City Council, from Gary Jackson, City Manager. This staff report includes a resolution from the Asheville Regional Airport Authority requesting the City of Asheville to adopt specific land use/zoning ordinances for airport property development at the Asheville Regional Airport. The goal of the Authority is to control and protect the aviation function of the airport. Ms. Tuch suggested that it did make sense for the airport to have their own special zoning designation given the uniqueness of the property use. The Committee supported developing this zoning for the Asheville Regional Airport Authority.

3. Status Reports

4. Presentations and Public Comment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.